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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system

comprising:

a sender operable to ~~encrypt and~~ transmit an encrypted electronic message, directed to a mobile device of a specified recipient, over a transmission medium; a message retrieval device associated with the specified recipient operable to receive the encrypted electronic message and provide ~~an alarm a notification~~ message to the mobile device indicating receipt of the encrypted electronic message by the message retrieval device; wherein

~~a secondary device said mobile device being~~ operable to receive the ~~alarm notification~~ message from said message retrieval device and in response thereto provide a secret password to said message retrieval device to initiate decryption of the encrypted electronic message,

wherein said message retrieval device is further operable to convert ~~the format of the decrypted electronic message into a format different from a format of the encrypted electronic message and transmit the converted decrypted electronic message to a device that is compatible with the mobile device, and to transmit the~~

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converted decrypted electronic message to the mobile device. ~~receive communications
in the different format.~~

2. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~different~~ format includes; at least one of an audible format, a facsimile format, and a text format.

3. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said message retrieval device comprises:
a converter device operable to convert the format of the decrypted electronic message into a format recognized by the mobile secondary device; and
an output unit from which the converted decrypted electronic message is provided to the ~~secondary~~ mobile device.

4. (Original) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said sender encrypts the electronic message in accordance with a specified electronic key and said message retrieval device decrypts the encrypted electronic message using said specified electronic key.

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5. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
 - a password transmission unit operable to transmit a password to said specified recipient.
6. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:
 - a password transmission path through which the secret password is transmitted to said recipient's mobile device; and
 - a message transmission path, different from said password transmission path, through which said decrypted electronic message is provided to the recipient's mobile device.
7. (Original) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said password is generated by the sender and communicated to the password transmission unit in a message different from the encrypted electronic message.
8. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mobile device is a cell phone that is unable to decrypt

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the encrypted electronic message, and wherein a portion of said transmission medium
is the Internet.

9. (Original) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in
claim 1, wherein said encrypted electronic message comprises an indication as to
whether the encrypted electronic message can be converted into a different format.

10. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system
comprising:

a sender operable to ~~encrypt and~~ transmit an encrypted electronic message
directed to a mobile device of a specified recipient that is unable to decrypt the
encrypted electronic message;

a message retrieval device operable to receive the encrypted electronic
message and provide ~~an alarm a notification~~ message to ~~a secondary the mobile~~
device when the encrypted electronic message is received by the message retrieval
device, wherein said ~~secondary~~ mobile device is operable to receive messages in a
format different from the format of the encrypted electronic message, said message
retrieval device comprising;

~~a converter device operable to convert the encrypted electronic message into a~~
~~format recognized by the secondary device; and~~

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a decryption device operable to decrypt the encrypted electronic message upon receipt of a password from the mobile device;

a converter device operable to convert the decrypted electronic message into a format recognized by the mobile device;

said electronic message retrieval system further comprising;

a secure device operable to receive and decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein said secure device is operable to receive messages in the same format as the format of the encrypted encrypted electronic message.

11. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval method comprising:

in response to receiving an encrypted electronic message, alerting with an alarm, notifying a recipient's mobile device of the receipt of the encrypted electronic message, the recipient's mobile device being unable to decrypt the encrypted electronic message;

determining, based on summary information instructions from the recipient's mobile device about the encrypted electronic message whether to open decrypt the encrypted electronic message and whether to have the encrypted decrypted electronic message converted into a format that is compatible with the mobile device, different than the format the encrypted electronic message is currently in.

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12. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

providing a password to a message retrieving device of the recipient to render the message retrieving device operable to decrypt the encrypted electronic message, and

converting the ~~encrypted decrypted~~ electronic message into a format compatible with ~~a secondary~~ the mobile device from a format which is incompatible with the ~~secondary~~ mobile device.

13. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

indicating to said recipient's mobile device whether the ~~encrypted decrypted~~ electronic message can be converted into a format compatible with ~~a secondary~~ the mobile device from a format which is incompatible ~~therewith the secondary device~~.

14. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval method comprising:

sending an encrypted electronic message over a communication network to a recipient's message retrieving device;

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~~alerting, with an alarm, notifying a recipient's mobile device of the receipt of~~
the encrypted electronic message;

~~determining, based on summary information included in the alarm, whether to~~
defer retrieval of the encrypted electronic message or retrieve the encrypted electronic
message immediately on the recipient's mobile device; and

if it is determined that retrieval of the encrypted electronic message is to be
deferred, receiving and decrypting said encrypted electronic message on a secure
machine associated with the recipient; or

if it is determined that retrieval of the encrypted electronic message is to be
performed immediately, providing a password to the recipient's message retrieving
device to render the recipient's message retrieving device operable to decrypt the
encrypted electronic message, and converting the ~~encrypted decrypted~~ electronic
message into a format compatible ~~with a secondary device from a format which is~~
~~incompatible with the secondary~~ that is compatible with the recipient's mobile
device.

15. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system
comprising:

a sender operable to ~~encrypt and~~ transmit an encrypted electronic message
over a communication network directed to a specified recipient's mobile device ~~that is~~
unable to decrypt the encrypted electronic message;

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a message retrieval device operable to receive the encrypted electronic message and provide ~~an alarm~~ a notification message to ~~a secondary~~ the mobile device when the encrypted electronic message is received by the message retrieval device;

a proxy device operable to receive the encrypted electronic message from the message retrieval device when the recipient's mobile device provides a proxy instruction to said message retrieval device and operable to decrypt and transmit a decrypted electronic message to said recipient's mobile device when the recipient provides a password to said proxy device.

16. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:

a secure device operable to receive and decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein said secure device is operable to receive messages in the same format as the format of the encrypted decrypted electronic message.

17. (Original) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said encryption is performed by the sender using a publicly accessible key associated with the recipient.

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18. (Original) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said proxy decrypts said encrypted electronic message by using a private key securely stored on said proxy.

19. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said secondary mobile device is operable to receive messages in a format different from the format of the encrypted decrypted electronic message.

20. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system as claimed in claim 15, said proxy device comprising:

a decryption device operable to decrypt an encrypted private key associated with the recipient and also decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein the decryption device is activated upon receipt of a password; and

a converter device operable to convert the ~~encrypted decrypted~~ electronic message into a format recognized by the secondary mobile device; and

a decryption device operable to decrypt an encrypted private key associated with the recipient and also decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein the decryption device is activated upon receipt of a password.

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21. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system comprising:
- a sender operable to transmit encrypt and transmit an encrypted electronic message over a communication network directed to a specified recipient's mobile device, wherein said encryption is performed using a publicly accessible key associated with the recipient;
- a message retrieval device operable to receive the encrypted electronic message and provide an alarm a notification message to a secondary the recipient's mobile device when the encrypted electronic message is received by the message retrieval device, wherein said secondary recipient's mobile device is operable to receive messages in a format different from the format of the encrypted encrypted electronic message received by the message retrieval device;
- a proxy device operable to receive the encrypted electronic message from the message retrieval device when the recipient provides a proxy instruction, said proxy device comprising;
- a decryption device operable to decrypt an encrypted private key associated with the recipient and also decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein the decryption device is activated upon receipt of a password; and
- a converter device operable to convert the encrypted decrypted electronic message into a format recognized by the secondary mobile device; and

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~~a decryption device operable to decrypt an encrypted private key associated with the recipient and also decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein the decryption device is activated upon receipt of a password;~~

 said electronic message retrieval system further comprising;

 a secure device operable to receive and decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein said secure device is operable to receive messages in the same format as the format of the encrypted electronic message.

22. (Original) An electronic message retrieval system in accordance with claim 21, further comprising a third party authority operable to receive said encrypted electronic message from said proxy device and decrypt the encrypted electronic message using a public key corresponding to said proxy device.

23. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system in accordance with claim 22 wherein said third party authority is located in a legal jurisdiction other than a legal jurisdiction in which said recipient's mobile device is located.

24. (Original) An electronic message retrieval system in accordance with claim 22 wherein said third party authority is operable to receive a reference

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designation corresponding to said encrypted electronic message along with said encrypted electronic message.

25. (Original) An electronic message retrieval system in accordance with claim 24 wherein said third party authority is operable to receive said reference designation corresponding to said encrypted electronic message from said specified recipient and said decryption of said encrypted electronic message is controlled in accordance with the reference designation received from said specified recipient.

26. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval method comprising:

sending an encrypted electronic message over a communication network to a recipient's message retrieving device, wherein said encryption is performed using a publicly accessible key associated with the recipient;

alerting the recipient's mobile device, ~~with an alarm~~, of the receipt of the encrypted electronic message;

determining, ~~based on summary information included in the alarm~~, based on a message from the recipient's mobile device whether to defer retrieval of the encrypted electronic message or retrieve the encrypted electronic message immediately; and

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if it is determined that retrieval of the encrypted electronic message is to be deferred, receiving and decrypting said encrypted electronic message on a secure machine associated with the recipient; or

if it is determined that retrieval of the encrypted electronic message is to be performed immediately, providing a password to a proxy device;

decrypting, in said proxy device, a private encrypted key associated with the recipient to render the proxy operable to decrypt the encrypted electronic message; and

converting the ~~encrypted~~ electronic message into a format compatible with a ~~secondary~~ the recipient's mobile device from a format which is incompatible with the recipient's mobile secondary device.

27. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system comprising:

a sender operable to ~~encrypt and transmit~~ an encrypted electronic message over a communication network directed to a specified recipient's mobile device, wherein said encryption is performed using one of a plurality of publicly accessible keys associated with the recipient;

a message retrieval device operable to receive the encrypted electronic message and provide ~~an alarm~~ a notification message to a ~~secondary~~ the recipient's mobile device when the encrypted electronic message is received by the message

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retrieval device, wherein said secondary recipient's mobile device is operable to receive messages in a format different from the format of the encrypted electronic message;

a proxy device operable to receive the encrypted electronic message from the message retrieval device when the recipient provides a proxy instruction, said proxy device comprising;

a decryption device operable to decrypt a plurality of encrypted private keys associated with the recipient and also decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein the decryption device is activated upon receipt of one of a plurality of passwords respectively associated with said encrypted private keys;

a converter device operable to convert the encrypted electronic message into a format recognized by the secondary recipient's mobile device; and

a decryption device operable to decrypt a plurality of encrypted private keys associated with the recipient and also decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein the decryption device is activated upon receipt of one of a plurality of passwords respectively associated with said encrypted private keys;

said electronic message retrieval system further comprising;

a secure device operable to receive and decrypt the encrypted electronic message, wherein said secure device is operable to receive messages in the same format as the format of the encrypted electronic message.

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28. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval method comprising:

sending an encrypted electronic message over a communication network to a recipient's message retrieving device, wherein said encryption is performed using one of a plurality of publicly accessible keys associated with the recipient;

alerting the recipient's mobile device, ~~with an alarm~~, of the receipt of the encrypted electronic message;

~~determining, based on summary information included in the alarm, based on instructions from the recipient whether to defer retrieval of the encrypted electronic message or retrieve the encrypted electronic message immediately; and~~

~~if it is determined that retrieval of the encrypted electronic message is to be deferred, receiving and decrypting said encrypted electronic message on a secure machine associated with the recipient; or~~

~~if it is determined that retrieval of the encrypted electronic message is to be performed immediately, providing one of a plurality of passwords to a proxy device, said provided password being associated with the publicly accessible key used to encrypt the message;~~

decrypting, in said proxy device and upon receipt of said password, a private encrypted key associated with the publicly accessible key used to encrypt the message to render the proxy operable to decrypt the encrypted electronic message; and

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converting the encrypted electronic message into a format compatible with a
the recipient's secondary mobile device from a format which is incompatible with the
recipient's mobile secondary device.

29. (Currently Amended) An electronic message retrieval system comprising:
- a sender operable to encrypt and transmit an encrypted electronic message, directed to a specified recipient's mobile device, over a transmission medium; the recipient's mobile device being unable to decrypt the encrypted electronic message;
 - a message retrieval device operable to receive the encrypted electronic message and provide an alarm a notification message to a secondary the recipient's mobile device indicating that the encrypted electronic message has been received by the message retrieval device, and to decrypt the encrypted electronic message; and
 - a message retrieval wherein the recipient's mobile device is operable to receive an alternate version of said encrypted decrypted electronic message from said message retrieval device, wherein said alternate version of said encrypted message is in a format that is different from a format of the encrypted electronic message.